Indian exports in post-WTO Environment

897. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian exports to other countries have gained momentum since India became a member of World Trade Organisation (WTO);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the imports have also gone up; details thereof; and

(d) items on import of which Government are considering removal of restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The World Trade Organisation has come into being with effect from 1 January, 1995. It is too early to say whether Indian exports have gained momentum or increased since then.

(d) Export-Import Policy, inter-alia aims at imparting greater transparency and minimising quantitative restrictions, licensing and other discretionary controls. Trade policy review is an ongoing exercise and suitable decisions are taken from time to time.

Trade deficit during 1994-95

898. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade deficit during April-January, 1994-95 is higher at $ 1,837.41 million as compared to dollar 581.68 million during April-January, 1993-94 as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 2nd March, 1995; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government expects India's exports during this year ending with a growth rate of 20 per cent; indicating the estimated exports during April-January, 1994-95 as against April-January, 1993-94 as well as corresponding period in 1992-93;

(c) whether Government expects higher imports during April—January, 1994-95 as against the corresponding period in 1993-94 indicating the growth rate as assessed by Government including the overall growth rate of non POL imports; and

(d) what are the details of imports this year of essential items for public consumption particularly of sugar, edible oil, synthetic cotton yarn knitted fabric yarn etc.; give details till date with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Details of imports, exports and trade deficit during April-January, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 etc. are given in the statement. (*See* below)

(d) Requisite details of imports for the period April-December, 1994 the latest period for which commodity-wise date are available in the current year as follows:

	US dollar Million
1. Sugar	711.02
2. Edible Oil	139.55
3. Synthetic and regenerated fibre	84.11
4. Textile Yarn fabrics	238.46

Statement

US doller Million

April-January]	Imports	%Growth	Exports	% Growth	TradesDefi-cit
1992-93 . . .	18256.36	14.61	14659.97	2.20	3596.39
1993-94	18380.47	0.68	17798.79	21.41	–581.68
1994-95 . . .	22708.42	23.55	20871.01	17.26	–1837.41

Trade deficit during April-January 1994-95 though higher than those during April-January, 1993-94 is lower than those during April-January 1992-93. Higher level of deficit during April-January 1994-95 compared to 1993-94 is primarily due to increase of 31.9 per cent in non-Pol import primarily comprising raw materials, intermediate inputs, capital goods consequent upon increased growth of industry and imports linked to exports. Considering the recent trend in exports growth and normal acceleration during February and March, annual export growth in 1994-95 is likely to be nearly 20 per cent.

उत्तर प्रदेश को गेहूं तथा चावल की आपूर्ति

899. **प्रो० राम बक्ष सिंह वर्मा** : क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत उत्तर प्रदेश को आवंटित कोटे में से कुल कितनी मात्रा में गेहूं तथा चावल की आपूर्ति की गई ;

(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश में वर्ष 1990 मे प्रति (वयस्क) व्यक्ति कितना कोटा निर्धारित किया गया था और इस समय प्रति (वयस्क) व्यक्ति कितना कोटा वितरित किया जा रहा है ;

(ग) क्या शहरी तथा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के बीच वितरण प्रणाली में कोई असमानता है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

खाद्य मंत्री (श्री अजित सिंह) : (क) वर्ष 1990 और 1994 के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को आवंटित गेहूं और चावल की मात्रा और उनके द्वारा इन खाद्यान्नों के उठान की मात्रा निम्न प्रकार से है:—

(लाख मीटरी टन में)

वर्ष	गेहूं		चावल	
	आवंटन	उठान	आवंटन	उठान
1990	6.00	2.73	3.97	2.59
1994	11.85	2.60	5.50	1.90

(ख) और (घ) सूचना राज्य सरकार से एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।